



ACT of PARLIAMENT,

In Favours of the Incorporation of the Wwoollen-Manufactory at NEW-MILNS.

At Edinburgh, the Fourteenth Day of June, 1693 Years.

OUR SOVERAIGN LORD and LADY, the King and Queens Majesties, and the Estates of Parliament, Considering the great advantage that arise to other Nations, and particularly to our Neighbour Nation of *England*, by the erecting and carrying on of Manufactories, especially those of Cloth, which do not only serve them at home, but vast quantities thereof, are to their great advantage exported; Besides the employing and plentifully maintaining a great number of poor People: As also, that some attempts have been made to erect the like Manufactories in this Kingdom, and several Laws and Acts of Parliament made for the encouragement and cherishing such as should erect the same, Which Manufactories have nevertheless not attained the wished effect: *And now seeing* that divers of their Majesties good Subjects, (notwithstanding of the discouragements that hitherto have happened) have already entred into a Contract of Society and Co-partnery, for erecting and carrying on a Manufactory at *New-milns*, and advanced a considerable stock for that effect, and have also agreed that the said stock shall remain mortified for the ends foresaid: *And their Majesties and Estates* foresaid being willing to give all due encouragement for advancing so generous and profitable an undertaking. **THEREFORE** their Majesties and Estates of Parliament, not only Declare the foresaid Society and Co-partnery to be a Manufactory; but also erects the saids Partners and Society unto a free and lawful Incorporation, with all Priviledge usual, to be called in all time coming *The Incorporation of the Wwoollen-Manufactory at New-Milns* in the Shire of *Haddingtoun*, and to have right to, and brook and enjoy all the Priviledges and Immunities provided in favours of Manufactories, by the former Laws of this Kingdom. **AND FURTHER**, Their Majesties and Estates foresaid, Do hereby *Enact and Ordain*, That the principal Stock already advanced, by vertue of the foresaid Contract of Society, with the foresaid Lands of *New-milns* and Houses acquired, and the Houses and others built and to be built thereon, with the Ware-house and Hall in *Edinburgh*, shall remain in all time coming, as Mortified, for carrying on the said Work, without prejudice always to any of the saids Partners, or their Successors to assign, transfer, or convey their shares of the said Stock, and the others foresaid, in whole or in part, with the burden always of the mutual Obligements of the said Contract, or to their Creditors to affect the same by legal Diligence, with the burden foresaid; and the Manufactory having retention of all Charges which shall be expended by the Society, in the defence of any Action, to be intended at the instance of Creditors, one or more for affecting the said stock of any of the Co-partners, according as the saids expenses

penes shall be given up, under the hand of the Mannagers for the time. And to the effect that such conveyance may be the more easily exped, It is hereby ENACTED, STATUTE AND DECLARED, That the foresaid Stock, Materials and Profits thereof, with the Heretages, Lands and Houses built, and to be built thereupon, and Ware-house and Hall foresaid, and the Rents and Casualties of the same, shall be Transmissible by the saids Partners, or any of them, for their respective interests, either in whole or in part, by a simple Translation or Assignment, to be recorded and insert in the Books of the said Society, as well these kept in *England*, as the Books kept in *Scotland*, and Signed by the Granter, before two Subscribing Witnesses, and an extract thereof subscribed in like manner by the Keeper of the said Books in *London* and *Edinburgh*, is to be delivered to the Purchaser, without any Disposition, Charter, or Infestment thereon, any other Registration than aforesaid, Intimation, or any other Formality required by the Law and Practique of this Kingdom, Hereby Declaring, That such a Translation or Assignment, so to be recorded and inserted in the saids Books, with the foresaid extract thereof, shall be as valid and effectual Rights to the receivers, as they had all usual Deeds and Evidences exped thereanent in the common Form of Law : The saids Books and Records being always made patent to the Leidges, when ever and as oft as required. AND FURTHER, Their Majesties and Estates of Parliament. *Do Statute and Ordain*, That all Materials, Instruments and others whatsoever needful and useful for the said Manufactory, to be imported, whether in Forraign Vessels, or these belonging to this Kingdom: As also, all Cloths, Stuffs, Stockings, or other Work made by the Incorporation of the said Manufactory, and exported, *shall be free of Custom, Excise, and all other publick Dues, for the space of twenty one years; next after the date of this present Act.* And forasmuch as by the fourtieth Act of Parliament, One Thousand six hundred sixty one years, It is provided, That any Stocks employed for erecting and entertaining Manufactories, shall be free of all privat and publick Taxes. Therefore their Majesties and Estates foresaid, *Do Statute and Ordain*, That the Stock of the said Manufactory advanced and to be advanced, and profits thereof, and all Land and others acquired for the use of the same, and Houses built or to be built thereon, *shall be free of all Cesses, Supplies, Taxations, Excise, or other publick burdens, imposed during the space foresaid.* As also, *That the Malt, or Liquors made of Malt, or other Strong Waters whatsoever made use of for the Masters and Servants, or others employed in the said Manufactory, within the Town or Lands of New-milns, and consumed within the bounds foresaid, shall be free of all Excise for the space of twenty one years after the date hereof :* As also, that the saids Lands and Houses, with the whole Inhabitants thereof, *be free of all quartering of Soldiers, either local or transient, and of Levying of Soldiers, during the standing of the said Manufactory.* And for the further encouragement of the said Work, Their Majesties and Estates foresaid, hereby Declare, That it shall not be lawful for any Military Officer or others, to insist any of the Servants belonging to the said Manufactory, although willing to engage as Soldiers; *And that it shall not be lawful to any person or persons whatsoever, or any other Incorporation or Manufactory, to entertain in their privat Service, or for the use of any other Manufactory, any of the Servants belonging to the said Manufactory of New-milns, until they first serve out their time conform to their respective agreements ;* And that the saids Partners shall have power to call back and retain any of their saids Servants; wherever they can be found : As also, Their Majesties and Estates foresaid, *Do Declare* that a Testificat upon Soul and Conscience; under the hand of the Masters and Clerk of the Society, Declaring that such a Servant belongs to the Incorporation, shall be sufficient to oblige any of their Majesties Leidges, Officers or Soldiers, whether Forraign; or these at home, to deliver up the saids Servants, *under the Penalty of an hundred pounds Scots.* Requiring hereby the respective Magistrats in Burgh or Landward, to secure the Persons of these Servants: As also, to administer Justice against such as refuse to deliver them back,

they make payment of the said Sum of an *hundred* pounds *Scots*, and deliver up the Person or persons belonging to the foresaid Corporation. And further, It is hereby Statute and Ordained, *That all the Regiments, Troups and Soldiers of the Scots Establishment, shall be obliged to furnish themselves with Cloaths of the product of this Kingdom,* Discharging hereby any License or Dispensation to the contrair. And lastly, Their Majesties and Estates foresaid; Do hereby empower the saids Partners to appoint a Baillie from time to time, with power to the said Baillie to keep and hold Courts within the saids Lands of *New-milns*, for punishing of Crimes and Delinquencies committed by their own Servants, or others upon the Ground, and to decide any difference falling out betwixt the saids Servants, and in case of Delinquencies, to Imprison and impose and exact Fines, according to the *Laws* of the Kingdom: And for that effect, the saids Partners to Elect, Nominat and appoint Clerks, Serjeants, Dempsters, and other Members of Court requisit, with all other Immunities, Powers and Priviledges granted in favours of Baillies of Barony and their Courts. Extracted forth of the Records of Parliament, by *George Viscount of Tarbat, Lord Mcleod and Castlehaven,* &c. Clerk to their Majesties Parliament, Councils, Registers and Rolls,

TARBAT.

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